

TIGERS EYE TOP OF THE LADDER

Bucky Harris' Crew of Ball Players Expect to Win a Lot of Games

By Russell J. Newland (Associated Press Sports Writer)

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16 (AP)—Detroit's Tigers are not trying to win the American league pennant before the season starts but Manager Bucky Harris wants the baseball world to know what his team will have to be considered when it comes time to exchange baseballs for spring-time oratory.

The 34-year-old, black-haired whip of the Tigers, whose teams finished sixth and fifth respectively since he took over the reins in 1929, believes he has assembled a squad that will end up where the fruit grows sweetest—at or near the top.

Bucky, who struts his stuff like a gamecock and rules his roost with the efficiency of a backwoods schoolmaster, says his squad will bob up around the opening of the season with a fighting spirit second to none.

Beaten by Seals

"The boys were all 'burnt up' because they list their exhibition series here to the San Francisco Seals. They tried to convince them that contests should not be taken too seriously but they acted much like a cage-fight of mountain lions suddenly deprived of breakfast. The kind of spirit will win a lot of games for us when the season gets in full swing.

"The club is stronger all 'round than last year. Our pitching staff has plenty of utility strength with Joe Dugan, Marvin Owen and Marty Koenig. Marty McManus is favoring his knee, which was operated in and if he isn't ready, Dugan will handle third base nicely. You know all about young Owen—he played at the University of Santa Clara and with Seattle. I think he is the best prospect I have seen in seven or eight seasons. Harris like him and he covers such a fine showing at shortstop last season, he figures to start there again. But if he doesn't keep up the pace, I'll have Owen in there quicker than you can spend ten bucks in a night club.

"If Charley Gehring isn't the best second baseman in the league, then my name is blank. Bill Dale Alexander will do at first base until a better man comes along.

"Much of the success of the club depends on the ability of three young outfielders to rise to the occasion. I have all the confidence in the world in Frank Doljack and the Walker brothers, Hubby and Gerald. We got the Walkers from Evansville of the Three Eye league. Doljack led the Mid-Atlantic league in hitting with .300. Hubby had a .355 average. If these boys click the Detroit club is made. If they don't, I still have experienced men in Roy Johnson, Elias Funk and Johnny Sauer.

Good Pitching

"While on the subject, you might say that Manager Harris wouldn't trade his pitching staff as a whole for any other in the league. That takes in a lot of territory, especially with Grove and Barnum on the Athletics, but it stands. We have a quartet of aces in Wally Hott, Vic Sorrell, George Hille and Earl Whitehill. Hoyt has forgotten the 'playboy' stuff that dropped up during the latter part of his New York Yankee days. He is in the best condition I have seen him for many years. I expect him to win twenty games. We also have plenty of reserve pitching strength.

"That is about the size of the works, except that we won't have to be ashamed of our catching staff this season. Wally Schang is 39 years old but he acts as if he discovered the fountain of youth out here in California. He is going to be one of our regulars. We bought Johnny Grabowski from St. Paul. He

is still good enough for the majors. Ray Hayworth was with us last year."

Training Camp News Of Today

SAN JOSE, March 16 (AP)—Winning on the Beavers' errors, of which there were five, the Portland Pirates defeated the Portland baseball club of the Pacific Coast league 7 to 6 at Paso Robles Sunday. It was the Pirates' last game before breaking their spring camp.

Bednar, in the box for the Pirates in the ninth, was credited with a victory only because of some fast fielding behind him, as the Braves all but sent over a couple of tallies.

While the main line was being defeated by Pittsburgh, a Beaver combination of veterans and rookies was defeating the San Jose All-Stars 6 to 2 here.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 16 (AP)—Babe Ruth is a great oarsman. He rowed himself right out of a boat into the Gulf of Mexico Saturday night. He and three cronies were fishing Ruth caught a crab or an ear slipped out of one hand or something. Anyhow he lost his balance and went into the water. His cronies pulled him out.

PASO ROBLES, Cal., March 16 (AP)—Club problems settled, including after a fashion even the question of what bit Paul Waner while he was spearing rock crabs in Florida, the Pittsburgh Pirates prepared to break camp late this afternoon, and headed for San Francisco for exhibition warfare.

"It was a whale that bit me," Brother Paul tells inquirers, with a suspicious wink, "but I handed the whale my card and told him he had made a mistake—for my name wasn't Tomah."

"Big Poison's" leg is protected by a catcher's shin guard in practice.

La Grande Gunners Turn In 68 Score

The La Grande Gun club shot against four teams in yesterday's leg of the annual Oregon-Washington telegraphic competition. Weather conditions again handicapped the shooters with the result that the local score only reached 69. Bruce O'Connell and Jim Garity broke 23 out of 25 birds and Charles Smith cracked 22 clay pigeons.

La Grande shot against Burns score 73; Baker, score 70; Multnomah, score 72; and Washington county, score 74.

DID YOU KNOW THAT—

University of Georgia's great end combination on the gridiron a few years ago is bidding for big league fame this spring. Icy Shiver is causing cold chills to some of the regular outfielders on the Detroit Tiger's roster. . . . and Tom Nash is listed as a flycatcher with the McGraw clan. . . . shiver bruised Texas league fences last year with Beaumont. . . . Nash cavorted on Asheville's Sally league entry. . . . Jack Curley has an idea he can draw 60,000 people to an outdoor wrestling party this summer in New York. . . . he intends to pair the two world champions, London and George. . . . Ketch and Hackschmidt set an outdoor attendance record when 43,000 people saw them wrestle for the title in White Sox park, Chicago, many years ago.

BAN HAS FAIR NIGHT

ST. LOUIS, March 16 (AP)—Ban Johnson, former president of the American league, had a fair night but his condition remained critical today, attaches at St. John's hospital here said.

State Tourney Begins March 18 On Salem Floor

By the Associated Press

Twelve high school basketball teams will descend on Willamette university at Salem Wednesday to decide by direct encounter which one is to be the 1931 Oregon state champion. The state interscholastic athletic association sponsors the meet with the university as host.

The last district eliminations were completed Saturday night with the following results—some of them surprising to the dopesters:

- District 1—Baker.
 - District 2—Pendleton.
 - District 3—The Dalles.
 - District 4—Ashland.
 - District 5—Myrtle Point.
 - District 6—Pleasant Hill.
 - District 7—Monmouth.
 - District 8—Tillamook.
 - District 9—Astoria (1930 champion)
 - District 10—Jefferson. (Benson Polytechnic.)
- Salem High, which was runner-up in 1930, is the twelfth team in the tourney, entering as the host city's representative.
- Pleasant Hill furnished one of the district surprises when it trounced Corvallis and the University High at Eugene to get to the state meet. Monmouth fought hard to defeat Molalla, 14 to 12, in two overtime periods.

The Dalles upset prognostications when it won from Bend, 19 to 17, after being defeated in two previous games.

Portland is allowed two teams in the tournament. Jefferson won the city title and Benson placed second.

Schedule for the first round follows:

Wednesday
 3:30 p. m.—Jefferson vs. Astoria.
 4:30 p. m.—Astoria vs. Baker.
 7:30 p. m.—Benson Tech vs. Pleasant Hill.

Thursday
 8:30 p. m.—Ashland vs. The Dalles.
 9:30 p. m.—Tillamook vs. Pendleton.
 4:30 p. m.—Salem vs. Myrtle Point.

FIGURES FERRELL TO WIN 'ABOUT 30'; FONSECA TO FILL HOLDOUT'S SHOES



Three years as a big league manager have convinced Roger Peckinpaugh, Cleveland pilot, that life is not made up of a bed of pennants. However, he finds it has its compensations. Though Eddie Morgan, singing first baseman, insists on remaining in "civies," Peck has the singing Lew Fonseca to fill the role. Also there's Wes Ferrell, great young right-hander, whom Peck is shown welcoming to the New Orleans training camp.

This is the third of a series of interviews by Associated Press sports writers with managers of big league ball clubs.

By Gayle Talbot Jr. (Associated Press Sports Writer)

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Three years as manager of the Cleveland Indians have removed any false optimism from Roger Peckinpaugh's makeup, convinced him that a pennant is a very elusive article, but he believes

now he is building in the right direction.

The former great shortstop continues to specialize in youngsters, bringing them up to suit him, and he figures another year or two will see his boys at the top.

He doesn't think any club is good enough to tag the Athletics this season, or the next, but when Connie Mack's machine cracks the Tribe's

chieftain expects to have one ready to step in.

"It takes time," the stocky, swarthy pilot admitted. "I've got the youngest outfit in the league right now. All they need is a little more experience. And they're a bunch of fighters."

"Last year, after they had lost 20 out of 23 and I was afraid they were down for good, they turned in and won 19 of the next 26. That's the kind of team I want."

Although keenly disappointed at Eddie Morgan's failure to return to his first basing job, Peckinpaugh cannot blame the New Orleans lad under the circumstances.

"I sure had counted on him, but I guess he's doing the right thing. His father doesn't want him to play ball, never has. Wants him to stay in business with him and build for the future. Guess it will be best for him in the long run."

In Morgan's absence Peck gains considerable solace in the presence of Lew Fonseca to hold down the initial cushion and the prospect that Wes Ferrell will win "about 30 games" this year. Ferrell he calls the ideal ball player.

"There's a boy that's got everything."

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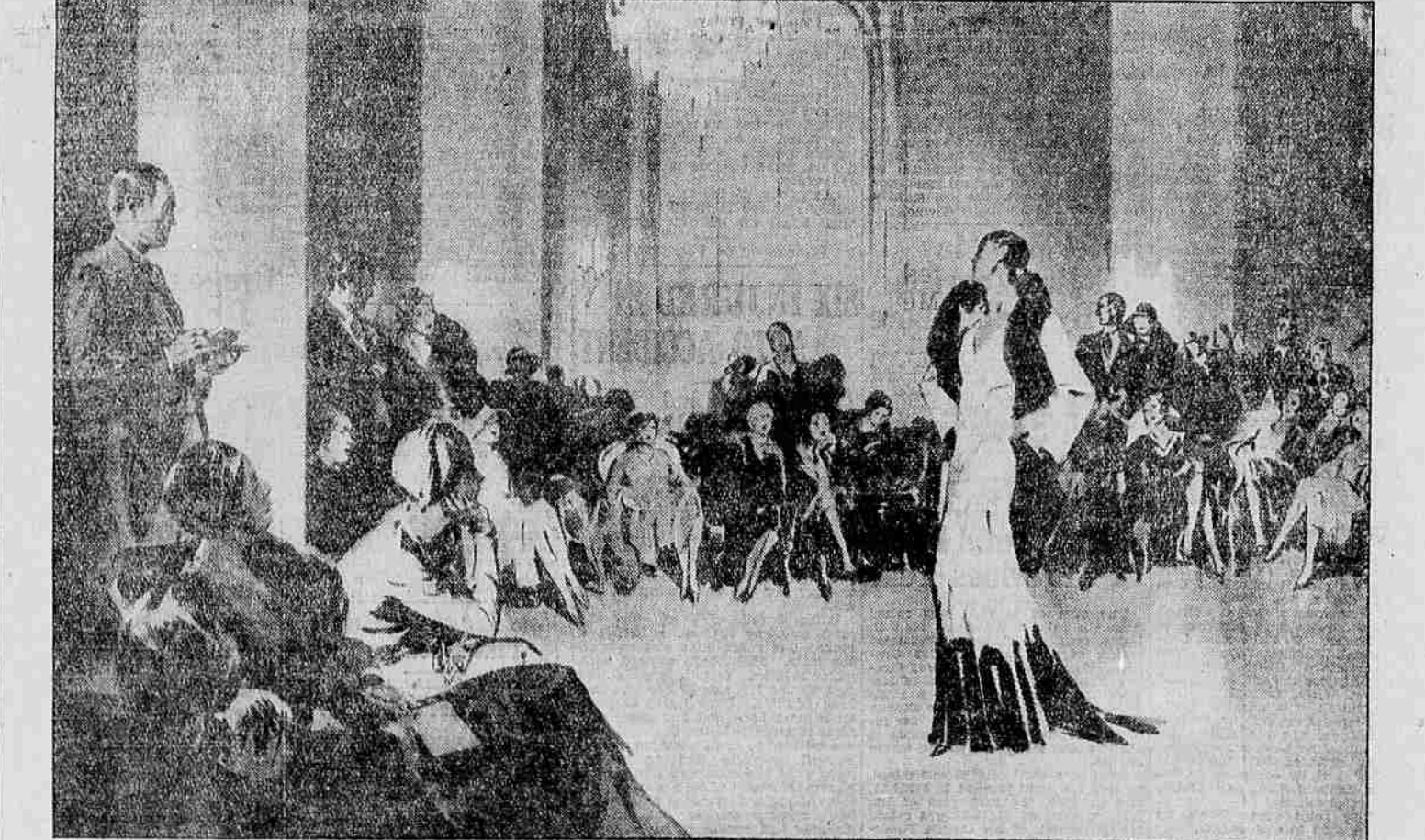
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